

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 OIC-04

INT-08 SCEM-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-02 PA-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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AMEMBASSY BERN

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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AMEMBASSY WILLINGTON

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SUBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF ON- GOING
ENERGY ASSESSMENT, JUNE 7, 1973

1. SUMMARY. MINISTERS GAVE A BOOST TO COOPERATION AMONG OECD MEMBERS ON ENERGY, AND ESPECIALLY OIL, POLICIES, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT THE TOUGH, DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS LIE AHEAD. THEY AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE AND TIMELINESS OF SUCH EFFORTS, ON THE USEFULNESS OF OECD AS A FORUM, AND ON THE MAIN AREAS THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD EXPLORE ON A PRIORITY BASIS. MANY INTERVENTIONS ALSO STRESSED THE NEED TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN OIL PRODUCING AND OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES, AND TO AVOID CONFRONTATIONS. END SUMMARY

2. ADDING TO THE GENERAL CHORUS, BOTH FRANCE AND JAPAN WARMLY SUPPORTED COOPERATION ON ENERGY POLICIES AMONG OECD MEMBERS THOUGH JAPAN, AS EXPECTED, INSISTED ON THE NEED FOR COOPERATION WITH OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES AS WELL. FRANCE, GERMANY AND THE EC COMMISSION SAID THAT COOPERATION WITHIN OECD SHOULD MOVE FORWARD WHILE THE EC IS WORKING OUT ITS OWN COMMON ENERGY POLICY.

3. IN HIS INTERVENTION ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION (USOEDC 15715), SECRETARY SHULTZ HAD EXPRESSED THE HOPES OF THE US FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEANINGFUL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ENERGY AREA. ADDRESSING THE SPECIFIC ENERGY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, I STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE WORK OF THE OECD IN THE ENERGY FIELD, AND CALLED ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR MORE SERIOUS AND MORE FREQUENT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AS WELL. I SAID THE US IS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE OECD-WIDE MECHANISM FOR SHARING THE IMPACT OF CRITICAL ENERGY
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SHORTAGES. I SUGGESTED THAT THE OECD COULD PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN DEVELOPING AN INVENTORY OF EACH COUNTRY'S ENERGY RESEARCH PROJECTS AND IN SERVING AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN THE QUEST FOR NEW ENERGY SOURCES. I NOTED OUR CONCERN WITH OTHER IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IN THE ENERGY FIELD, AND FINALLY REITERATED CATEGORICALLY THE BELIEF OF THE US THAT ENERGY PROBLEMS CAN BE

DEALT WITH EFFECTIVELY THROUGH COOPERATION AND NOT THROUGH CONFRONTATION OR DISRUPTIVE COMPETITION. (TEXT OF THIS INTERVENTION SENT USOEDC 15816.)

4. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE FOUR PRIORITY TASKS FOR THE OECD SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 16 OF THE SEC- GEN' S NOTE ON ENERGY, C(73)103 (FINAL), WITH SEVERAL MINISTERS NOTING THAT MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AT THE OECD OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 11. THE MOST DETAILED POINT WAS MADE BY ITALY, WHICH PROPOSED THAT APPROPRIATIONMENT UNDER MECHANISMS FOR SHARING OIL IN TIMES OF ACUTE SHORTAGE SHOULD BE BASED ON COUNTRIES' ENERGY BALANCE SHEETS RATHER THAN ON IMPORTS.

5. MANY MINISTERS EXPRESSED RENEWED SUPPORT FOR AND INTEREST IN THE OECD' S STUDY OF LONG- TERM ENERGY PROBLEMS WHICH WAS LAUNCHED AT LAST YEAR' S MINISTERIAL COUNCIL. SOME WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSOR SCHNEIDER AS HIGH- LEVEL CONSULTANT FOR THE STUDY AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT RESULTS WOULD BE PRODUCED PROMPTLY.

6. AS PART OF HIS SUMMARY, SEC- GEN NOTED US SUGGESTION ON POSSIBLE OECD ROLE IN ENERGY RESEARCH AS WELL AS INTEREST EXPRESSED BY SOME IN ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF ENERGY, AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF RISING ENERGY PRICES FOR BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT MINISTERS HAD WELCOMED STEPS TO FACILITATE COMPLETION OF THE LONG- TERM ENERGY STUDY BY THE END OF 1974. HE ALSO MENTIONED THE GENERAL CONCERN OVER THE NEED TO AVOID MISLEADING PUBLICITY ON OECD' S ACTIVITIES IN THE ENERGY FIELD.
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